

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	18888	Agenda Number	69.
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Meeting Date:	10/11/2012	Department:	Transportation
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Subject

Approve an ordinance amending Ordinance 20120412-021 relating to pedicabs, by extending the moratorium on new pedicab permits until April 23, 2014.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	Ordinance No. 20120412-021
For More Information:	Robert Spillar, 974-2488; Gordon Derr, 974-7228; Carlton Thomas, 974-7020; Gilda Powers, 974-7092.
Boards and Commission Action:	Will be reviewed by the Urban Transportation Commission on October 9, 2012.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

On April 12, 2012, the Austin City Council adopted an ordinance regulating the operation of pedicabs. Part 8 of the approved ordinance established a moratorium on any new permits for a period of six months. The moratorium is set to expire on October 23, 2012. The ordinance also states that a cap on total permits shall be considered upon the expiration of the six month period.

This ordinance extends the moratorium on new pedicab permits until April 23, 2014. ATD staff has hosted two meetings with the pedicab stakeholders and will have an additional meeting prior to presenting recommendations to the Urban Transportation Commission at its October 9th meeting. The pedicab stakeholders and staff recommend extending the moratorium for a period of 2 years. With over 500 currently permitted pedicabs, this proposed extension will allow time to further gauge the impact of the recently adopted regulations.

An additional component of the ordinance approved by the City Council in April 2012 is the requirement of the installation of a braking system on all single unit and trailer-type pedicabs by July 1, 2013. The stakeholders also

recommend a requirement that all tow-bikes associated with trailer-type pedicabs secure an annual safety inspection from a third-party provider, and staff agrees. Staff recommends this requirement coincide with the braking system requirement and become effective July 1, 2013. In preparation for this inspection requirement, staff will begin the process of identifying potential providers qualified to conduct bicycle inspections.

Prior to the moratorium, ATD was directed to create a policy allowing permitted pedicabs to be deactivated during periods of low demand without reducing the pedicab fleets. Staff complied and enacted a policy. During discussions with the stakeholders, it has been expressed that this policy is no longer desired and that owners should commit to operating their entire fleet throughout the year, as opposed to only operating during special events. Although there was not consensus on this issue, staff recommends terminating this policy.